

## CONSULATE GENERAL OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

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## LETTER OF ENDORSEMENT

The Public Affairs Section of Consulate of the United States of America in Naples, supports the participation in the ATLANTIS Programme (EU – US co-operation) of the Regional Centre for Cultural Heritage, Ecology and Economy (BENECON SCaRL), which is comprised of four universities in the Campania region, institutional member of Forum UNESCO University and Heritage, and the Faculty of Architecture "Luigi Vanvitelli" at the Second University of Naples (SUN) in Italy. The ATLANTIS Programme aims primarily to promote understanding between the European Union and the United States of America and to improve the quality of human resource development.

BENECON and the Faculty of Architecture at SUN intend to establish an "International Research Network for Education in Cultural, Natural, and Intangible Heritage Management." The project proposes that researchers and Ph.D. scholars of the E.U. and U.S. partner universities analyze the case study of five World Heritage Sites in the Campania region, they are Naples, Pompeii, Caserta, Amalfi, and Cilento. In doing so we can develop comparisons and "best practices" analysis on cultural, natural and intangible heritage management in the United States of America.

Public Affairs in Naples works to strengthen and develop U.S. - Italian relations, by creating, promoting and administering educational and cultural exchange programs that increase understanding between the peoples of Italy and the United States. The proposal for the ATLANTIS Programme strongly supports our mission. I sincerely hope that BENECON and Architecture faculty at SUN the best of luck in locating successful and energetic US partners to carry out this valuable project

James Rodriguez Public Affairs Officer